

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, February 16, 1885, with transcript

Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel (Hubbard) Bell. L Park Hotel, Madison, Wis., Monday, February 16th, 1885. My darling May:

Mr. Spencer and I have prepared a short statement of the reasons advanced for the passage of the Bill which was submitted to the Joint Committees of the Assembly. It will be incorporated with the report of the Senate Committee.

I think that the bill will undoubtedly pass both houses — but I am a little uncertain about the action of the House Committee. No open opposition has developed itself yet. I have felt hampered by the necessity of acting conjointly with Mr. Spencer so far — but I have suddenly found my way out of the difficulty — and both Mr. Spencer and I think it a sort of inspiration. I am not pledged to the bill or Mr. Spencer. I come at the invitation of the Committees to give them my views. Having done so verbally I shall now do so in writing. If they endorse the general principles enunciated — it is their look out — not mine — that the provisions of the bill correctly carry them out.

I am now writing a letter to the Committees which I shall print and distribute to all the members of both houses before they take action on the bill.

Mr. Spencer approves so I have full swing.

I have made a good commencement and friend Spencer is in raptures. I am in for an eloquent appeal. A final rush on the enemy's position.

Fix bayonets — CHARGE!

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Good bye, Alec. Mrs. A. Graham Bell, Washington, D. C.